

repeated his resolution and when they were ready to part from each other, they all knelt down on the sea shore and prayed. Oh, what a prayer this must have been. Parting with dear friends, probably never to meet on earth again, and knowing what he had to face when he reached Jerusalem. Oh, for more such prayers, more such earnestness, and more of Paul's heroism in the church. Then we would not have so many dead churches, as we call them. In this land of gospel liberty we need not fear the prison's chains, nor imprisonment, nor death by the hands of enemies. Thank God for the land of gospel liberty, but my dear children, I fear too many of us fear to face a little north west winds and on Sunday morning we sit at home and our seat is vacant in the house of God on that day. My dear Christian readers, stop and ponder, am I setting forth a good example for others to follow? Am I doing my duty as a follower of Christ? Then stop and think of the storms Paul faced for the sake of his Master. Oh, for more of Paul's earnestness in our Christian life. They called Paul mad because of his earnestness. "But there is no madness so great, no delirium so awful as that which neglects the eternal interest of the soul, for the sake of the poor pleasures and honors which life can give." Earthly pleasures only last for a very, very short season. Heavenly pleasure lasts for eternity seated at the right hand of our dear Savior, where there are no prisons, where there is no death. Oh, what pleasure that will be. Tongue can not tell of the pleasures that await the faithful children of God. Will our seat be vacant there for a few earthly pleasures?

He is the mad man who calls Christ, Lord, Lord, and does not the things which he says, who professes to be seeking a heavenly home and never sets forth one foot toward it.—*Vaughan*. There are some Christians that think all that is necessary to get to heaven is to have their name on the church record and then sit down in an easy chair, fold their hands and sail straight into heaven, but I fear they will never land on heavenly shores. These are the kind of Christians that do not want to be asked to put their shoulders to the wheel and help push the load. They always look for some one else to do the work. James said we should not boast of our faith, where there are no deeds faith without works is a dead faith.

"Oh for a faith that will not shrink,
Tho pressed by every foe,
That will not tremble on the brink
Of any earthly woe."

This little verse expresses the faith of Paul and should be the prayer of every earnest Christian. We need never fear so long as we are found in the path of

duty. God has promised to guide, guard, and direct his children if we give ourselves in his hands. Brethren and sisters let us go to work with more earnestness and put on the whole armor of God and press forward to the mark of the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. And when it is ours to leave this world of sin that we can say like Paul, "I have fought a good fight. I have kept the faith and henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness."

Morrill, Kans.

HOLSINGERISMS

D. C. MOOMAW

Under the above headings several communications have appeared in the EVANGELIST of more than ordinary interest and the close observer of current events has not been slow to observe their trend. The first of the series contained, among its features, a plaintive lament over what appeared to the beloved author, Eld. H. R. H., a decay of religious virtue or theological soundness among the Progressive churches, and an appeal to the old leaders of the movement to come from their seclusion and battle once more for the old principles. The second contains, among its features, an extract from a correspondent who lamented the "bleaching out of Tunkerism," from the Progressive theology and church polity. In response to the sentiments of these communications our editor wrote in defense of the present attitude of our churches and successfully answered the complaints embodied therein. Others have spoken with special directions to the subject and indications prevail that a tide of feeling has been set in motion that will introduce some spice into our periodical literature in the immediate future.

I will say for the churches south and east that there is little ground for pessimistic feeling. Our churches, as a rule, are earnestly contending for the ancient faith. We need more consecration, more grace, more of the Holy Spirit, but as to the ordinary marks of external conformity of Bible doctrines we will measure up to the standard. There seems to be an idea prevalent among some that we should approximate the polity and theology of Tunkerism as it is illustrated in the Conservative organization as our ultimate goal. One brother does not want membership in our church when Tunkerism is "bleached out." Another thinks that Tunkerism stands for literal obedience to God's word.

In my opinion Tunkerism stands for one thing, one thing only, and that one thing is tradition. Trine immersion, feet washing, the Lord's supper, the holy salutation, the holy communion, are not any more Tunkerism than were Christ and the apostles Tunkers. They

were not Tunkers, and were they living now, would not be recognized as such by the Annual Conference of that church. Our Lord could not be accepted as a member of the standing committee, neither could John the Baptist, nor Paul, nor Peter be admitted to sit as a delegate at the conferences. A certain style of dress is a prerequisite to such service and neither of those men would measure up to the standard. Many of the leaders of what is called the general brotherhood are cognizant of these facts and they are "bleaching out" those unscriptural peculiarities as fast as prudence and destiny allows. Our peculiar mission is to eliminate every mark of tradition from the old system and reconstruct on purely gospel foundations. We are doing that down here and the Lord is blessing our work.

Let us keep our eyes and hearts on the Word and not on Tunkerism as our guide and we will bless, by our example, those churches as well as ours. God has already blest our movement to a great awakening from tradition and lethargy among all of the original brotherhood and we bless him for it. Let us keep up the work.

UNION WITH CHRIST

LIZZIE BOWMAN

In the 15 chapter of John, we can find a very instructive, true and aspiring lesson. This lesson made a strong and lasting impression upon the disciples, the time our great leader, Jesus Christ was here on earth, and it should make as deep an impression on the true followers of to-day. The disciples saw with their natural eyes, on the night of the betrayal, in the beautiful light of the moon, as they marched the sad and mournful way, from the upper chamber to the Gethsemane garden. And if we have faith in Christ we can spiritually see this grand, lovely and all important lesson. Christ is the only true vine from which comes the true life, his father, God is the husbandman, he cares for the vine, so does the true vine care for the branches. Christ said he can do nothing without the father, so Christ's disciples to-day can do nothing without the Son. It is joy unspeakable and a blessed thought to think that we may by faith be engrafted into the true vine, to be an abiding branch of the true vine, be in union with the risen Lord.

The Bethlehem star, our life eternal, Oh, let us be united with a Savior, that can point us to the beautiful shores beyond this life. Christ's great love to us and our love to him ought to make us want to imitate him in all things possible. He said for us to abide in him, and he would abide in us, which will make us thrifty branches and we will bring forth much fruit to the glory of God. There are many professed Chris-